



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: November 23, 2004

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: PLANT PURCHASE ORDER WITH SANTA BARBARA NATIVES
FOR THE ARROYO BURRO ESTUARY RESTORATION PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Find it in the City's best interest to waive the formal bid process as authorized by Municipal Code Section 4.52.080 (k) and authorize the General Services Manager to issue a purchase order to Santa Barbara Natives as the most favorable source for providing services to salvage and grow native plants for the Arroyo Burro Estuary Restoration Project in an amount not to exceed \$34,760.50; and
- B. Authorize the General Services Manager to increase the purchase order by 15 percent or \$5,214, if the native plants need to be held beyond November 2005 or additional native plants are needed.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the purchase order with Santa Barbara Natives is to propagate 5,639 native plants from local genetic stock for the Arroyo Burro Estuary Restoration Project, and to salvage native plant material from the restoration site prior to construction.

The Creeks Division is committed to using native plants grown from local genetic stock for its creek restoration and water quality improvement projects. Plants grown from local sources preserve genetic diversity and ensure they are well adapted to local environmental conditions. The native plants will be grown from plant cuttings and seeds collected at the restoration site as well as throughout various locations within the Arroyo Burro and Mission Creek watersheds. Plants will be grown at the Santa Barbara Natives nursery site and at the Creeks Division native plant nursery site.

Implementation of the Arroyo Burro Estuary Restoration Project also provides the opportunity to salvage some of the more rare plants found at the site. During project construction, some of the existing native vegetation will be removed. Salvaging this plant

REVIEWED BY: _____ Finance _____ Attorney

Agenda Item No. _____

Council Agenda Report

PLANT PURCHASE ORDER WITH SANTA BARBARA NATIVES FOR THE ARROYO BURRO ESTUARY RESTORATION PROJECT

November 23, 2004

Page 2

material prior to construction will prevent any reduction in rare species at the site and will ensure genetic diversity. Plant salvaging will include collecting the seed and transplanting two locally rare native plant species. The salvaged plant material will be grown out and then planted at the site during construction of the Arroyo Burro Estuary Restoration Project. The salvaging effort will also fulfill permit requirements for the restoration project.

As part of the implementation of the restoration project, the Creeks Division is planning to host two community work days to both salvage plants and install new native plants. The purchase order with Santa Barbara Natives includes providing assistance with salvaging plants during community work days.

Nursery Selection

A request for proposal was distributed to four native plant nurseries and two proposals were received. Santa Barbara Natives is recommended for this project because the nursery submitted the lowest amount and most responsive proposal, and is specialized in growing and salvaging plants native to Santa Barbara and the South Coast. Santa Barbara Natives has also provided native plants for local riparian and wetland restoration projects at the Arroyo Hondo Preserve and the Carpinteria Salt Marsh.

The plant purchase order is for one year. Plant work will commence in November 2004 and end in November 2005.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds for salvaging and growing native plants are appropriated in the Creeks Division Fiscal Year 2005 Capital Program for the Arroyo Burro Estuary Project. The cost to provide these services is \$34,760.50. The Creeks Division is recommending a 15 percent contingency of \$5,214 in the event construction of the Arroyo Burro Estuary Restoration Project is delayed, requiring plants to be held beyond the delivery date, or it is determined that additional plants are needed for the project. The total purchase order including the contingency is \$39,974.50.

PREPARED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Acting Parks and Recreation Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office